

Foothill Transit Executive Board

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Foothill Transit Executive Board was held Friday, February 24, 2006 at the Foothill Transit Board Room, 1st Floor, 100 North Barranca Avenue, West Covina.

President Lantz called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The following members were present, constituting a quorum of the Executive Board:

Paula Lantz, President
Will Briesemeister, Vice President
Peggy Delach
John Fasana
Lola Storing

Staff and Guests present:

Doran Barnes, Executive Director
Kevin McDonald, Deputy Executive Director
Darold Pieper, General Counsel
Lee Millen, Deputy Secretary

Pledge of Allegiance

Member Lantz led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF JANUARY 27, 2006 AND STRATEGIC PLANNING WORKSHOP OF FEBRUARY 3, 2006

The regular meeting minutes of January 27, 2006 and the February 3, 2006 Strategic Planning Workshop were approved as submitted.

Motion: Member Delach, seconded by Member Fasana
Vote: Unanimously carried

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mary Griffieth expressed concern regarding safety of the riders and Coach Operators on Foothill Transit bus lines. Ms. Griffieth reiterated the importance of the service Coach Operators provide to the public and asked the Board that they be treated with high regards for their efforts.

PRESENTATIONS:

Contractors' Employee of the Month Awards

Phil DeLisle introduced and recognized the following awardees:

Gerald Williams, Pomona First Transit Operator of the Month
Shronda Hill, Pomona First Transit Employee of the Month

John Farrell introduced and recognized the following awardees:

Alfonso DeAlba, Irwindale/Arcadia First Transit Employee of the Month
Mark Mullen, Irwindale/Arcadia First Transit Operator of the Month

CONSENT CALENDAR:

The Executive Board adopted the Consent Calendar Agenda Items #7 – #11.

Motion: Member Fasana, seconded by Vice President Briesemeister
Vote: Unanimously carried

REGULAR AGENDA:

CONTRACT AWARD – 30 NABI CNG 60FT ARTICULATED TRANSIT BUSES

George Karbowski, Director of Operations and Maintenance, provided a PowerPoint presentation (copy on file). Mr. Karbowski reported the availability of the articulated transit buses allows Foothill Transit to initiate its planned Bus Rapid Transit Project (BRT) while continuing to move toward its goal of converting the bus fleet to alternative fuel. The cost of the 30 NABI 60 foot buses is estimated at \$825,000 per bus including taxes, delivery, spare parts, training, and tools for a total of \$24,750,000. The FY 2006 budget includes \$17,850,000 for the purchase of buses and the FY 2007 capital budgets will include the remaining balance of the funding needed if adopted at the May 2006 Governing Board meeting. Further, sufficient federal section 5307 funds are also available including the required local match. Member Storing asked staff if a community outreach/marketing campaign will be used for the BRT. Doran Barnes, Executive Director, advised community outreach will occur in the near future after the item is presented at the May 2006 Governing Board meeting for approval.

1. Authorize the Executive Director to negotiate and execute a contract amendment in the amount of \$28,750,000 with North American Bus Industries (NABI) for the purchase of 30 CNG low-floor 60 foot articulated, and 10 CNG low-floor 40 foot conventional transit buses for delivery in FY 2007 pursuant to the assignments from Metro; and
2. Reduce the previously approved purchase of 40 foot NABI buses from 42 to 10 in support of this articulated bus procurement.

The Executive Board adopted the above recommended action.

Motion: Member Fasana, seconded by Member Storing
Vote: Unanimously carried

PROPOSED 2006 STATE AND LOCAL LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

David Reyno, Director of Government Relations, summarized Foothill Transit's legislative proposals and strategies/goals for 2006. Mr. Reyno suggested Foothill Transit seek State advocacy for legislation to alleviate the increased traffic flow on the Interstate Highway 10 Busway and Interstate Highway 210 Freeway Carpool lane. Further, Mr. Reyno advised to maintain active participation with the California Transit Association, League of California Cities, Southern California Association of Government, San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership and other various organizations respectively.

Member Fasana supports implementing 3 person HOV lanes and suggested contacting Congresswoman Hilda Solis, 32nd District of California, for legislative support in this endeavor. Although both freeways are important, Member Fasana recommended addressing the traffic conditions on the I-10 freeway before examining the 210 freeway.

The Executive Board adopted the proposed 2006 State and Local Legislative Program.

Motion: Member Fasana, seconded by Member Delach
Vote: Unanimously carried

PROPOSED 2006 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

Mr. Reyno reported Foothill Transit received a 2006 appropriations earmark of \$3.2 million and a SAFETEA-LU earmark of \$7.9 million for the six-year reauthorization period. Moreover, Foothill Transit will request \$10 million for FY 2007 for the Transit Oriented Neighborhood Program (TONP). Mr. Reyno indicated that Jan Powell of Baker, Donnelson, Bearman and Caldwell, will continue as the Foothill Transit advocate in Washington D.C. and directly facilitate all funding requests.

Member Delach suggested video imaging may assist in garnering support for legislation to improve the present freeway conditions on the 605 freeway.

The Executive Board adopted the proposed 2006 Federal Legislative Program.

Motion: Member Storing, seconded by Member Fasana
Vote: Unanimously carried

**PROPOSED FARE CONSIDERATION FOR UNIFORMED AND NON-UNIFORMED
SWORN LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS**

Mr. Barnes requested this item be pulled from the agenda for further consideration and advised the item will be presented at the March 24, 2006 Executive Board Meeting.

BOARD MEMBER AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR COMMENTS

Member Delach thanked staff for the creativity and positive energy exuded in all endeavors approached. Mr. Barnes thanked the Board for their direction and guidance regarding the Legislative Program and reported the American Public Transportation Association Legislative Conference and the San Gabriel Valley Legislative Reception will both occur in March 2006. During the two scheduled trips to Washington D.C., Foothill Transit staff will meet with elected officials, Committee Staff members and MTA staff. Mr. Barnes reported escrow is near closing with the Federal Transit Administration and anticipates the final letter of approval in early March 2006. Lastly, Mr. Barnes extended Happy Birthday greetings to Foothill Transit staff members Henry Lopez, George Karbowski, and Kevin McDonald.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Executive Board adjourned at 9:32 a.m.

February 24, 2006